



Reviewed May 2023

## GOLF CANADA CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PLAYERS POLICY

Golf Canada takes great pride in the quality of its competitions, which would not be possible without the active support and assistance of its provincial partners, host facilities, sponsors and broad community involvement at each competition. In order to continue making Golf Canada competitions enjoyable for everyone, and to show respect for the involvement of our host facilities and volunteers, Golf Canada requires that all players adhere to this Code of Conduct for Players and all [Safe Sport Policies](#) at all Golf Canada at all Golf Canada competitions.

Golf Canada also recognizes and complies with Version 5.1 of the [Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport \(UCCMS\) Document](#).

The Golf Canada Code of Conduct for Players and the [Golf Canada Code of Conduct and Ethics](#) must be followed by all players and caddies (when permitted), on and off the golf course, throughout the entire competition, including the practice round(s).

All players are expected to act and play in the spirit of the game by:

- Acting with integrity – for example, by following the Rules, applying all penalties, and being honest in all aspects of play.
- Showing consideration to others – for example, by playing at a prompt pace, looking out for the safety of others, and not distracting the play of another player.
- Taking good care of the course – for example, by replacing divots, smoothing bunkers, repairing ball-marks, and not causing unnecessary damage to the course.

### Violations of the Code of Conduct for Players and the Code of Conduct and Ethics:

- Unsportsmanlike conduct, including bullying, abuse, harassment, discrimination, intimidation, abusive or offensive language, club throwing, abuse of equipment, disrespect to volunteers, referees, officials, host facility personnel, other players, or spectators or abuse of golf course property.
- Failure to care for the course, including but not limited to the failure to fill or replace divots, rake bunkers or repair ball marks.
- Consumption of alcoholic beverages, cannabis or any illegal substance on the competition course or any designated practice areas.
- Possession or consumption of alcohol, tobacco (smoking, vaping or chewing) products or any illegal substance by players in junior competitions or by minors in any competition, on or off the course, throughout the entire competition.
- Failure to adhere to the dress code policy while on the host facility property.
- Any vandalism or abusive behavior whether at the host, or other, hotel or to a host family, or their property.
- Any other conduct unbecoming of a player in a Golf Canada competition occurring throughout the entire competition.



**Note:** For more information on the definition and concepts of bullying, abuse, harassment, and discrimination please refer to the Golf Canada Safe Sport Policies.

### **Code of Conduct Penalties:**

Golf Canada has adopted the Local Rule under Rule 1.2b setting standards of player and caddie conduct as more specifically set out above under Violations of the Code of Conduct. Any suspected breach of this policy may be reported to any member of the Golf Canada Tournament Committee, Tournament Rules Committee, starter or scorer.

The Golf Canada Tournament Rules Committee may assess any or all of the penalties outlined below, based on the severity and frequency of the violation, during a competitive round. The player is responsible for and may be penalized for any breach by their caddie during a competitive round.

- Warning
- One penalty stroke
- General Penalty (Two stroke penalty)
- Disqualification

**Note:** Under Rule 1.2a, the Golf Canada Tournament Committee may suspend a player or caddie for serious misconduct for acting contrary to the spirit of the game during the balance of the entire competition and whether at or away from the host club facility.

**Note:** Every athlete and other person participating in the competition shall comply with [Golf Canada's Anti Doping Policy](#) and reasonably cooperate with the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) or another anti-doping organization investigating anti-doping rule violations and that a failure to do so may be the basis for disciplinary action.

Except as otherwise set out above, the Golf Canada Amateur Competitions Committee is the sole judge in determining conduct unbecoming and may assess warnings and/or suspensions based on the severity and frequency of the current or past violation(s). Any Code of Conduct violation resulting in a warning or a suspension will result in a written letter to the player or caddie. In the event of a suspension, the player or caddie may appeal the suspension in writing to the Golf Canada Amateur Competitions Committee within 30 days of receipt of notice of the suspension. The Committee will reconsider the length of the suspension after reviewing all submitted materials, including a Golf Canada tournament official/staff account of the violation and any past incidents. Any player who is under suspension will not be eligible for post-season honours.

All instances of bullying, abuse, harassment or discrimination require an incident report to be compiled by the Tournament Director who must also notify the Golf Canada Compliance Officer and/or Case Manager of any such Code of Conduct violations, as well as the sanctions imposed as a result of such violations.